UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/036,526	01/07/2002	Beniko Matsumoto	016907-1357	5086

22428 7590 12/14/2005		EXAMINER
FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP		BURLESON, MICHAEL L
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3000 K STREET NW		ART UNIT / PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20007		2626

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/07/02</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 01/07/2002 was.

The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97.

Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the

examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2.   Claim 11 recites the limitation "the image determination section" in page

34, lines 9-10. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the

claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this ·

Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section
> 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or
> (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before
> the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under

the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an
application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Iwasaki US 2003/0123081.

3.   Regarding claim 1, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) (page

2,paragraph 0018), which reads on a scanner unit for reading an original

document image optically and converting it into image data. Iwasaki teaches of a

main control section (90) that determines whether or not printing can be

performed based on image determination (97) (page 4, paragraph 0065), which

reads on an image determination section for determining the optimum operation

mode for the image data read by the scanner unit. Iwasaki teaches of a liquid

crystal display portion (86) that performs operational guidance and various

instructions (page 4, paragraph 0047). He also teaches that a warning message

is displayed in order for an operator to select continuing copying or copying with

a decreased compression rate (page 5,paragraph 0066 and 0075). This reads

on a display unit for, when the operation mode determined by the image

determination section and the operation mode specified by the user differ from

each other, showing the operation mode determined by the image determination

section. Iwasaki teaches of a main control section (90) that determines if printing

can or cannot be done. If not, and the operator selects YES, then the main

control section (90) selects a compression rate, but if the operator selects NO,

then the main control section (90) continues with a compression rate (figure 5

and page 5,paragraph 0066,0067 and 0070). This reads on a control unit for

setting the operation mode determined by the image determination section when a command is given to change the operation mode to the operation mode shown on the display unit or setting the operation mode specified by the user through the operating unit when no command is given to change the operation mode to the operation mode shown on the display unit. Iwasaki teaches of a printer section (12) (figure 5 and 6, page 5, paragraph 0069), which reads on an image forming unit for performing image formation processing on the original document image read by the scanner unit on the basis of the operation mode set by the control unit.

4.   Regarding claim 2, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) and a color printer (12) (page 2, paragraph 0017 and 0018), which reads on the scanner unit is a color scanner and the image forming unit is a color printer.

5.   Regarding claim 3, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines the type of image based on density value of the pixels (page 4, paragraph 0057), which reads on the image determination unit determines the optimum settings for image formation of the original document image by the image forming unit on the basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner unit.

6.   Regarding claim 4, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or bitmap based on the amount of data (page 4,paragraph 0057), which reads on the image determination unit determines the optimum settings for image

formation of the original document image by the image forming unit on the basis

of the amount of data from the original document image read by the scanner unit.

7.   Regarding claim 5, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section

(97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or

bitmap based on the amount of data based on density value of the pixels (page

4,paragraph 0057), which reads on the image determination unit determines the

optimum settings for image formation of the original document image by the

image forming unit by determining whether or not the document image is a high-

definition image on the basis of changes in density of the original document

image read by the scanner unit.

8.   Regarding claim 6, Iwasaki teaches of an operation panel (91) that

includes a start of copying key (page 4,paragraph 0046 and 0047), which reads

on an operating unit for accepting an operation mode set command and a copy

operation start command from a user. Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11)

(page 2,paragraph 0018), which reads on a scanner unit for reading an original

document image optically and converting it into image data. Iwasaki teaches of a

main control unit (90) (page 5, paragraph 0060 and 0075), which reads on a

determination section for, when the copy operation start command is given

through the operating unit, determining whether the document image read by the

scanner unit is not suitable for compression and decompression. Iwasaki

teaches of a liquid crystal display portion (86) that performs operational guidance

and various instructions (page 4, paragraph 0047). He also teaches that a

warning message is displayed in order for an operator to select continuing

copying or copying with a decreased compression rate (page 5,paragraph 0066 and 0075). This reads on a display unit for, when the determination section determines that the document image is not suitable for compression and decompression, showing a guide to the effect that compression and decompression processing should mot be performed on the document image if the operation mode set by the user involves compression and decompression. Iwasaki teaches of a main control section (90) that determines if printing can or cannot be done. If not, and the operator selects YES, then the main control section (90) selects a compression rate, but if the operator selects NO, then the main control section (90) continues with a compression rate (figure 5 and page 5,paragraph 0066,0067 and 0070). This reads on a control unit for setting the operation mode with no compression and decompression processing when it is told through the operating unit not to perform compression and decompression in accordance with guide shown on the display unit and setting an operation mode with no compression and decompression processing when an operation mode with no compression and decompression processing is not told through the operating unit. Iwasaki teaches of a printer section (12) (figure 5 and 6, page 5, paragraph 0069), which reads on an image forming unit for performing image formation processing on the original document image read by the scanner unit on the basis of the operation mode set by the control unit.

9.   Regarding claim 7, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) and a color printer (12) (page 2, paragraph 0017 and 0018), which reads on the scanner unit is a color scanner and the image forming unit is a color printer.

10.   Regarding claim 8, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines the type of image based on density value of the pixels (page 4, paragraph 0057), which reads on the image determination unit determines whether to compress and decompress the original document image or not on the basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner unit.

11.   Regarding claim 9, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or bitmap based on the amount of data (page 4,paragraph 0057), which reads on the image determination unit determines whether to compress and decompress the document image or not on the basis of the amount of data from the original document image read by the scanner unit.

12.   Regarding claim 10, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or bitmap based on the amount of data based on density value of the pixels (page 4,paragraph 0057 and 0073), which reads on the image determination unit determines whether or not the document image is a high-definition image on the basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner unit and, if the document image is a high-definition image, determines that compression and decompression processing should not be performed on the document image.

13.   Regarding claim 11, As best understood by the claim language, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) (page 2,paragraph 0018) and a printer section

(12) (figure 5 and 6, page 5, paragraph 0069), which reads on a scanner unit for

reading an original document image optically and converting it into image data

and an image forming unit for forming the original document image read by the

scanner unit on an image formed medium on the set operation mode. Iwasaki

teaches of a main control section (90) that determines whether or not printing can

be performed based on image determination (97) (page 4, paragraph 0065),

which reads on determining the optimum operation mode for the image data read

by the scanner unit. Iwasaki teaches of a liquid crystal display portion (86) that

performs operational guidance and various instructions (page 4, paragraph

0047). He also teaches that a warning message is displayed in order for an

operator to select continuing copying or copying with a decreased compression

rate (page 5,paragraph 0066 and 0075). This reads on when the determined

operation mode differs from the operation mode specified by the user, showing

the operation mode determined by the image determination section to the user.

Iwasaki teaches of a main control section (90) that determines if printing can or

cannot be done. If not, and the operator selects YES, then the main control

section (90) selects a compression rate, but if the operator selects NO, then the

main control section (90) continues with a compression rate (figure 5 and page

5,paragraph 0066,0067 and 0070). This reads on setting the shown operation

mode when a command is given to change the operation mode to the shown

operation mode or setting an operation mode specified in advance by the user

when no command is given to change the operation mode to the shown

operation mode. Iwasaki teaches of instructing various copy conditions and a

start of copying key (page 4,paragraph 0046), which reads on performing an operation of copying the original document image in the set operation mode.

14.   Regarding claim 12, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) and a color printer (12) (page 2, paragraph 0017 and 0018), which reads on the scanner unit is a color scanner and the image forming unit is a color printer.

15.   Regarding claim 13, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines the type of image based on density value of the pixels (page 4, paragraph 0057), which reads on wherein determining the optimum operation mode is to determine the optimum settings for image formation of the original document image by the image forming unit on the basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner unit.

16.   Regarding claim 14, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or bitmap based on the amount of data (page 4,paragraph 0057), which reads on wherein determining the optimum operation mode is to determine the optimum settings for image formation of the original document image by the image forming unit on the basis of the amount of data from the original document image read by the scanner unit.

17.   Regarding claim 15, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or bitmap based on the amount of data based on density value of the pixels (page 4,paragraph 0057), which reads on wherein determining the optimum settings for image formation of the original document image by the image forming unit by

determining whether or not the document image is a high-definition image on the

basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner

unit.

18.   ·Regarding claim 16, Iwasaki teaches of an operation panel (91) that

includes a start of copying key (page 4,paragraph 0046 and 0047), which reads

on an operating unit for accepting an operation mode set command and a copy

operation start command from a user. Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11)

(page 2,paragraph 0018), which reads on a scanner unit for reading an original

document image optically and converting it into image data. Iwasaki teaches of a

printer section (12) (figure 5 and 6, page 5, paragraph 0069), which reads on an

image forming unit for forming the original document image read by the scanner

unit on an image formed medium in a set operation mode. Iwasaki teaches of a

main control unit (90) (page 5, paragraph 0060 and 0075), which reads on when

the copy operation start command is given through the operating unit, reading

the document image through the scanner unit and determining whether or not the

document image is suitable for compression and decompression. Iwasaki

teaches of a liquid crystal display portion (86) that performs operational guidance

and various instructions (page 4, paragraph 0047). He also teaches that a

warning message is displayed in order for an operator to select continuing

copying or copying with a decreased compression rate (page 5,paragraph 0066   ·

and 0075). This reads on when the determination is that the document image is

unsuitable for compression and decompression, showing a guide to the effect

that compression and decompression processing should not be performed on the

document image if the operation mode set by the user involves compression and decompression. Iwasaki teaches of a main control section (90) that determines if printing can or cannot be done. If not, and the operator selects YES, then the main control section (90) selects a compression rate, but if the operator selects NO, then the main control section (90) continues with a compression rate (figure 5 and page 5,paragraph 0066,0067 and 0070). This reads on setting an operation mode with no compression and decompression processing when it is told through the operating unit not to perform compression and decompression in accordance with guide shown on the display unit and setting an operation mode with no compression and decompression processing when an operation mode with no compression and decompression processing is not told through the operating unit. Iwasaki teaches of instructing various copy conditions and a start of copying key (page 4,paragraph 0046), which reads on performing an operation of copying the original document image in the set operation mode.

19.   Regarding claim 17, Iwasaki teaches of a scanner section (11) and a color printer (12) (page 2, paragraph 0017 and 0018), which reads on the scanner unit is a color scanner and the image forming unit is a color printer.

20.   Regarding claim 18, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section (97) determines the type of image based on density value of the pixels (page 4, paragraph 0057), which reads on wherein determining whether or not the document image is unsuitable for compression and decompression on the basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner unit.
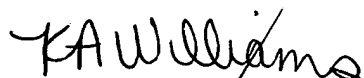
21.   Regarding claim 19, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section

(97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or

bitmap based on the amount of data (page 4,paragraph 0057), which reads on

wherein determining whether or not the document image is unsuitable for

compression and decompression on the basis of the amount of data from the

original document image read by the scanner unit.

22.   Regarding claim 20, Iwasaki teaches that the image determination section

(97) determines whether or not an original image is a highly detailed image or

bitmap based on the amount of data based on density value of the pixels (page

4,paragraph 0057 and 0073), which reads on wherein determining whether or not

the document image is unsuitable for compression and decompression is to

determine whether or not the document image is a high-definition image on the

basis of changes in density of the original document image read by the scanner

unit and, if the document image is a high-definition image, determines that the

original document image is unsuitable for compression and decompression.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Michael Burleson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7460 and fax number is (571) 273-7460. The examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached at (571) 272-7471

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Michael Burleson
Patent Examiner
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Mlb
December 7, 2005